

Why are School Bus Stop Arm Cameras Necessary?

In 2012, 7 states enacted state legislation authorizing the use of exterior bus cameras to capture drivers illegally passing school buses. In 2013 Illinois joined them, after 3,324 Illinois buses participated in a one day study on May 15, 2012 and reported 2,114 vehicles passed them illegally.

Transportation specialists predict that within the next 10 years most, if not all states, will have adopted similar legislation as a means of enhancing police enforcement of these potentially lifesaving laws.

Why aren't Police Officers monitoring the School Buses?

The Prospect Heights Police Department is committed to the safety of their students and residents, but no community can afford to police every school bus. Traditional enforcement also creates a safety hazard for the violator, other drivers, pedestrians and the officer when police chase a violator who has passed a stopped school bus with children loading and unloading. This technology frees up officers to assist and protect residents in other ways.

Is this simply a way for the City to make money?

The objective of this program is to deter drivers from disobeying the law, not catch them. There is no cost to the School District or City for installing, operating or maintaining the camera systems. The program is completely violator funded.

School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement



Parents and caregivers rely on school buses to safely transport children to and from school. The safety of these children depends upon the driver to properly operate the bus and ensure the external visual signals are functioning.

But the safety of our children also depends heavily on motorists obeying the laws for approaching or overtaking a school bus which is loading or unloading passengers.

The School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program is specifically designed to reduce the number of violations and injuries to children resulting from drivers who choose to disregard the law.

Remember – a School Bus' flashing yellow lights are a Warning the bus is preparing to stop and load or unload

Additional Information

Prospect Heights School District 23 www.D23.org
Prospect Heights Police Dept. page at www.prospect-heights.il.us
National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) www.nasdpts.org

School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement



Their Lives Depend on Your Choice

PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS IS AGAINST THE LAW!

*When the School Bus Stops, **YOU STOP.***

Is Passing a Stopped School Bus really a problem?

In 2014 more than 97,000 school bus drivers from 29 states participated in a survey to count Stop Arm Violations. **75,966 stop arm violations were counted in ONE DAY,** which points to over 13 million violations in a 180 day school year.

Source:
National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services
www.nasdpts.org/stoparm

How it Works

Step 1: Video cameras are installed on the front and rear driver's side of a school bus.

Step 2: When the school bus stop arm is extended, the camera system is activated and automatically captures video footage of all vehicles passing the stopped bus.

Step 3: The high definition video is uploaded via a secure virtual private network to the RedSpeed® processing system. Still images are extracted from the video showing the vehicle passing the school bus along with a zoom shot of the vehicle's license plate.

Step 4: After a comprehensive review process, the violation images and video are securely transmitted to the Prospect Heights Police Department where a trained officer reviews the evidence package and either approves or rejects the violation.

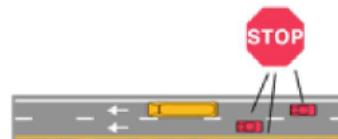
Step 5: Once approved by law enforcement, a citation is issued and mailed to the vehicle's registered owner.

Where can I view the Video Clip of the Violation?

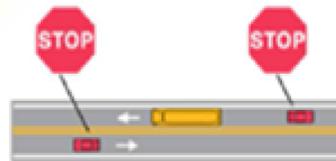
Violators may view their digital images and video clip by visiting www.SchoolBusViolations.com and logging on with the violation number and license plate provided on the notice.



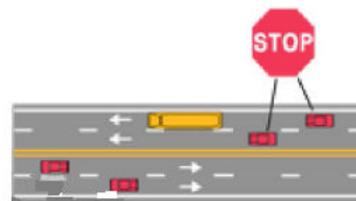
You must stop before meeting or overtaking a school bus on a two-lane roadway. A warning will be given at least 100 feet (200 feet in rural areas) in advance of a stop. The bus driver will flash amber and red lights on the front and rear of the bus. The stop signal arm will be extended after the school bus has come to a complete stop. You must then come to a complete a stop. You must remain stopped until the signal arm is no longer extended and the flashing lights are turned off or the driver signals you to pass. On a four-lane roadway where a bus is stopped in the opposite directions from which you are traveling, you are not required to stop your vehicle but you should drive with caution.
www.cyberdriveillinois.com



One Way Roadway
All lanes of traffic must stop.



Two Lane Roads
Vehicles travelling in both lanes must stop.



Four Lanes with at least two lanes in opposite direction
Vehicles in all lanes overtaking the bus must stop.

I've received a Violation, What are my Options?

Individuals receiving a Violation Notice have Two Options available:

Pay the Fine or Contest the Violation

Payments may be made:

- ✓ By mail,
- ✓ Thru a City specific toll-free number or
- ✓ On-line at www.SchoolBusViolations.com.

Individuals wishing to contest may do so by submitting a written Contest by Mail or by requesting an In- Person Hearing.

The following are the only valid reasons for a Contest:

- Police officer issued you a uniform traffic citation for the same violation within 1/8 of a mile and 15 minutes of the Stop Arm Camera recorded violation. The Police issued citation takes precedence over the violation captured by the system.
- Vehicle or license plates were stolen and not recovered at the time of the violation.
- The required visual signals were damaged, inoperable, not activated or not present in the violation image.

How much is the Fine?

The fine for the 1st violation is \$150.00; all subsequent violations are \$500.00. This is a civil penalty so no points are assessed and insurance rates are not affected. Like a Parking ticket, violations are issued to the vehicle's registered owner regardless of who was driving the vehicle.